

THE

# American Freedman.

[Address, 30 Vesey Street; or, P. O. Box 5783.]

VOL. II.]

NEW-YORK, MARCH, 1868.

[No. 12.

## The American Freedman's Union Commission,

30 Vesey Street, New-York City.

"The object of this Commission is the relief, education, and elevation of the Freedmen of the United States, and to aid and cooperate with the people of the South, without distinction of race or color, in the improvement of their condition upon the basis of industry, education, freedom, and Christian morality. No school or depot of supplies shall be maintained from the benefits of which any shall be excluded because of color."—ART. II., CONSTITUTION.

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(Late National Freedman's Relief Association.)

ORGANIZED FEBRUARY 22, 1862.—INCORPORATED MARCH 23, 1865.

OFFICE, No. 30 VESEY STREET, NEW-YORK.

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## The American Freedman.

EXAMPLE, it is said, is more eloquent than precept, and we are commended in Scripture to "provoke one another to good works." We commend to our readers, therefore, the example of Deacon Benedict, of Waterbury, Ct., who has contributed to the Society this year, through the hands of Erastus Colton, five hundred dollars to support a teacher. He is represented by Miss Graves, principal of the New-York Branch's school, at Raleigh, N. C. Fifty little learners will bless the name of their, to them, unknown benefactor.

In the same connection we may mention the case of Miss Mary Anna Longstreth's school, mentioned in another column, which is supporting a teacher and sending supplies of clothing to the pupils. There is no object of interest that may more justly be expected to awaken the sympathies of a school than the education of the freedmen, and the establishment of free education for all classes in the South.

WE welcome, from the Toledo Association, a draft for three hundred dollars, making now five hundred dollars already received from that society, though it is as yet in its infancy. They mean to bring up their contribution to one thousand dollars, at least. This association includes some of the best men in Toledo—and that is saying a good deal—who are not content to lend to a good cause the indorsement of their name, but mean *work*, and carry out their meaning efficiently, as these facts and figures show. Among them we recognize their honored president, Hon. Richard Mott, Mr. Wagner, editor of the Toledo *Commercial*, and Mr. Locke, better known to the country at large as Petroleum V. Nasby, of the Toledo *Blade*. The following paragraph from the *Commercial* indicates one of the measures this active coadjutor is employing, and may serve as a valuable hint to some of our various auxiliaries:

"A TREAT IN STORE.—Madam Rumor is quietly whispering the intelligence that Messrs. Gleason, Hahn, and Moulton 'will shortly ap-

pear before a Toledo audience,' with a grand musical and literary entertainment for the benefit of the Freedmen's Association. The reputation which these 'artistes' have already achieved is sufficient guarantee that whatever they undertake in the way of entertaining the public will be accomplished in first-class style. We trust that the madam's statement is founded on fact, and that the time is not far distant when that treat will be offered to our citizens."

ON the 13th of January, a farewell meeting was given to Mr. William F. Mitchell at Devonshire House, Bishopsgate Hill, London, at the invitation of the Executive Committee of the National Freedmen's Aid Union of Great Britain. Josiah Forster, Esq., was in the chair. About two hundred ladies and gentlemen were present. The following resolution of farewell was passed:

"Resolved, That this meeting desires to record its strong sense of the value of the indefatigable labors of Mr. William Forster Mitchell on behalf of the freedmen, while in this country on the invitation of the National Freedmen's Aid Union; and hereby assures him of its high esteem, as well as its best wishes for his safe return to his family and country, and for his success in the high and responsible mission of laboring for the social and Christian elevation of the colored people of the United States of America."

WE call special attention to Miss Laura Towne's letter from the Sea Islands; particularly her views, admirably put, as to the proposed loan by Congress to the South. It is well worth careful consideration by every voter. The want of the South is education for its masses, not money for its few.

### ENGLISH CO-OPERATION.

THERE are two Englands. In our natural indignation at the one, we are in constant danger of forgetting the other. We rejoice in Newman Hall's recent visit to this country, because it brings to our sight and to our remembrance the England that loves justice, liberty, and truth.

This division is not recent. It is historical. Ever since the barons wrested the Magna Charta from King John, England has been a battleground in which, on the whole, popular rights have made steady advance, but ever in spite of stalwart resistance. We are not to forget that we have plucked the ripened fruit of a freedom which grew on English soil, harrowed by civil war, and watered and enriched by British blood.

There have always been, we have said, two Englands. One is the England of William the Conqueror, the other the England of Alfred the Great; one the England of John, the other the England of the barons; one the England of the Stuarts, the other the England of Cromwell and Hampden; one the England of Laud and Wentworth, the other the England of Ridley, Latimer, and Cranmer; one the England of George III. and his premier, Lord North, the other the England of Edmund Burke, and the unrepresented English people; one the England of Laird and Lord John Russell, the other the England of Bright and Cobden; one the England that permitted pirate-vessels, fitted in her ports, to assail our commerce, the other the England that patiently suffered, in Manchester and Birmingham, all the miseries which the stoppage of the cotton-mills produced, rather than suffer the English government to raise the blockade, and revive already dying slavery; one the England of Governor Eyre and the Jamaica massacres, the other the England of Wilberforce and emancipation.

In nothing has liberty-loving England shown its love of liberty more than in what it has done freely, and, for the most part, unsought, for the cause of the freedmen in this country. Of about \$5,000,000 contributed since the close of the war for the relief and education of the colored people, England has given about \$700,000. Her last movement in this direction is a subscription of £5000, the first instalment of which has just been received by the Commission, to be appropriated to the support of normal schools in the South. This amount has been raised chiefly among the Friends by a voluntary effort, inaugurated and carried on by themselves unsolicited, and with no other aid than such as has been freely rendered by the presence and co-operation of Mr. William F. Mitchell. An eye-witness of the educational operations in the South, and of the conditions and wants of the freedmen, and of old time practically acquainted with the educational institutions of America, he visited England, not as an agent of this Society, nor under its pay, but as a friend of the cause; and therefore, as he himself says in the subjoined letter, wholly untrammelled by special instructions and by entangling alliances.

We beg our English friends to believe that their coöperation is cordially and heartily appreciated by us here, and will serve as one of those numerous bonds of union which neither Fœnian excitement, past prejudice, or political demagogism can ever sunder. What nobler international monuments could English philanthropy erect than these training-schools for co-

lored teachers in the Southern States? Especially we desire to acknowledge the hearty and efficient labors of Mr. Arthur Albright, to whom Mr. Mitchell refers, and to whom as much perhaps as to any one else is due the wide-spread and extended interest in the cause of the freedmen, as represented by this free and generous contribution.

From Mr. Mitchell, who has just returned from England, we have received a private letter, from which we make the following extract:

"NEW-YORK, 2d Month.

"J. MILLER MCKIM:

"\* \* \* \* \*  
"DEAR FRIEND: During my six months' sojourn in Great Britain I visited upward of sixty towns and made eighty-four public addresses, which were all well received. On more than half these occasions I was accompanied by my dear friend, Arthur Albright, the most earnest worker for our cause in England—one who gives money, time, and talent for the freedmen, and who is the best posted in the history of the colored people since their emancipation of any man I have ever met.

"In my public addresses I seldom, if ever, alluded to associations in America by name, though when introduced by Mr. Albright he not unfrequently stated that I represented the American Freedman's Union 'officially but not officially,' which was the case; for, while I have and ever had full confidence in the Commission, and should not have been willing to speak for the freedmen in England without their recognition, I fully appreciate the advice with which this sanction was given, 'to go untrammelled by any organization on this side of the Atlantic.'

"In advocating the education of the freedmen, with the public-school system as the end in view, we were helped by the present educational movement in England, which simply means, that the people, weary of the half-way system of school training in the denominational schools, are clamoring for the common-school plan of New-England, which they will eventually get.

"While there are many good friends of our cause in England not of the Society of Friends, the *bulk* of the contributions for our object come from that body. Their hospitality to me was unbounded. By upward of sixty families I was entertained and cared for with Christian kindness. The sum proposed to be raised for normal schools for training colored teachers has been more than realized, under Providence, through the efforts of the Secretary, A. Al-

bright, and to some extent, I hope, through the details which I have been able to give of an eyewitness, both in war and peace, of the conduct and progress of the freed people.

"Yours truly, W. F. MITCHELL."

THE following extract from a private letter gives a graphic and forcible picture of the South financially:

MEMPHIS, January 25, 1868.

DEAR SIR: We are getting our cotton into market, have completed the gathering of our corn, and can begin to form some idea of our losses for the year, which have been very heavy. It can not fall short of eight thousand dollars, and, I fear, will exceed it. From near two hundred and fifty acres, planted in cotton in the early part of the season, we were only able to save enough from the evil effects of the overflow and cold to make forty bales of cotton. The cotton ground ploughed up was put into corn, on which we raised a good crop, and have now about two thousand bushels.

We let the negroes have the land to cultivate on shares, and the failure of the crop has brought them out in our debt from one hundred to over one thousand dollars each, our only chance to get it being their success during the present year. They all seem anxious and willing to pay, and will try hard to work out.

Corn is in demand, but there is no money to buy with, and it can only be disposed of in a barter trade where ours is located. It seems that this county is thoroughly gone up for the next three or five years at least, unless a great change takes place. Good land can be hired for \$2.50 per acre in Mississippi, and plantations are advertised to let for three years on payment of taxes and some slight improvements. I shall keep kicking, and trust to a kind Providence to come out right in the end. There is little, in fact, almost no trade here. So many failures and auction sales of goods, that there are no profits hardly on goods sold.

### THE FREEDMAN AS A VOTER.

THE Cincinnati *Commercial* has a correspondent in Alabama who furnishes a lively and interesting account of the recent election in that State. We quote from his letter as follows:

#### INDEPENDENCE OF THE FREEDMEN.

The white citizens of this State, with very few exceptions, have been struggling to keep voters away from the polls, and the black citizens have

shown a contrasted eagerness to exercise their right of suffrage fully, though crudely comprehending that the continued enjoyment of that right is at stake. In defiance of fatigue, hardship, hunger, the threats of employers, the arguments of brighter intellects than their own, the sacrifice of valuable friendships and of pleasant situations, the majority of the black men of Alabama have recorded their votes in favor of the new charter.

The influences brought to bear to induce them to coöperate with the late master class have been ingenious and manifold. If good-humoredly reasoned with, they would only nod in reply. Scolding fell on their impassive heads as uselessly as a spitball. Expostulation was of no avail. Threats of proscription have been less fruitless, but many thousands disregarded every motive save the one that spurred them to vote for the political elevation of their race. It is universally asserted by the Conservatives that the poor negroes are the dupes of designing white "carpet-baggers," who desire to be floated into office and emolument. That such designing persons exist is not to be doubted, but the black man, at this election, is trying to pull out of the fire the largest and most succulent chestnuts for himself and his own people. Read the proposed constitution, and judge for yourself if he be snapping for more shadow than substance. Though often credulous, and by nature always confiding, he has a just apprehension of the stake played for in this deal of the political cards.

#### SCENES AT THE POLLS.

If the reader will now come with me and watch for a while how the voting proceeds, I promise him a novel experience. We will not take the first day of the voting, for then it is painful to see the crowd of ragged colored men standing for hours in the pitiless storm, waiting to slip in their tickets, and so fearful of losing their turns that one who had deposited his vote found no avenue of egress save that paved with the heads of those behind. Let us choose the third day, for the air is bland and the sky cloudless. There stand the black pilgrims, you see, ranged (for better order prevails to-day) in a double queue. At the side of the window where the vote is handed in are two policemen—one to admit the voter, the other to point the way out. In front of the window is the Conservative challenging committee of four. One of the four keeps tally of the vote; another scans the registration-list as the name of each voter is announced; the third writes down the names not found registered; and the fourth makes himself generally watchful. Behind the window three judges are seated around a table bearing in its centre a large pine ballot-box.

The column of negroes waiting to vote is jammed together as if by some uncontrollable muscular impulse, but it surges back whenever the barrier of the first policeman threatens to give way. They do not talk to each other, deeming silence, perhaps, to be due to the sacred importance of the occasion. If their eye catches yours, (you are a Caucasian, remember,) it falls with an expression of embarrassment, as if they felt that you, being white, looked with keen disfavor on the act they had



drawn up to perform. Falstaff's recruits were not greater ragamuffins. Look at the garb of these negroes, and I defy you to point out one unpatched garment in fifty. Gray coats and blue coats, worn out three years ago, still are forced to serve in a tattered sartorial invalid corps. One coat (doubtless for Sundays and elections) is made of cheap ingrain carpeting. The pantaloons are more shred-like than the coats; the hats advanced to all degrees of organic decay. Not one in twenty wears boots, and few shoes retain much of their original homely integrity. In shape they might enclose either a small ham, or the foot of any human being deformed by toiling among the clods of cotton-fields. If you study the heads and the faces, you will find more indications of a gentle, submissive, ease-loving heart, than of active intelligence or ambitious disposition.

Whatever the natural aptitude of the African may be, a hundred years of slavery in Alabama have not added any thing attractive to his phenomenal development. That many of them are very ignorant of the scope and meaning of citizenship, is as plain as their determination to learn more about it. The hunger to have the same chances as the white men they feel and comprehend as clearly as they understand a physical craving. That is what brings them here, and not the expectation of getting free lands, free rations, and free mules. Your Conservative friend may tell you that they look for such windfalls; but talk to as many on the subject as I have, and you will accumulate the strongest sort of rebutting evidence. The last one I sounded looked at me with a shade of rebuke, and said: "No, sah! I 'spect to get nuffin but what I work hard for, and when I 'se sick I'll get docked."

So the strange procession moves slowly on. If you wish to determine how much the negro's heart is in this election, watch his face as he comes away from that little window. His vote once in, every feature blazes with joy; but his vote rejected, sorrow and dismay are expressed, even in his attitudes. Watch the anxious but resolute sooty faces in those waiting turns. Is all this emotion due to the duplicity of Yankee adventurers? Can the carpet-bagger thus sway the very soul of the black man to reach his selfish ends? Is it for a possible mule and forty acres of land that the negro is thus profoundly stirred; that he braves hardships, the ill-will of his employers, and, may be, starvation itself? No, friend Conservative. The slave you once owned, ignorant as he is still, and lowly in social rank, feels, as he casts that ballot, the throes that liberty awakened, and which, unchecked by renewed oppression, will give his manhood a rapid and generous growth. I do not seek to conceal his ignorance about the technical duties of citizenship. An old black fellow came, as I stood near one of the polls, and proffered me his vote, asking, "Are you de boss?" The question is, Does the lack of such technical knowledge unfit him for useful and honest citizenship? There have been periods in the history of our country when a loyal heart, an honest, incorruptible nature, were worth more than ten thousand of the most choicely cultivated intellects on the national roll of the rich, the powerful, and the gifted.

## Pennsylvania Branch.

THIS being the first occasion on which the articles relative to the Pennsylvania schools appear in these pages, we would say to our friends that a list of their names has been sent to the office of THE AMERICAN FREEDMAN, whence they will receive the monthly numbers, containing extracts from our most interesting letters, and such reports of our work as will keep them well informed of its progress.

—•••—  
We give this month a list of boxes, etc., sent us up to the 1st of February, and will furnish in the next issue a statement of moneys received up to the 1st of March.

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SUBSCRIBERS in Pennsylvania and New-Jersey will notice that these numbers bear our own title-page.

—•••—  
GARDEN seeds for distribution among the freed people have been sent to our teachers and others during the past month, a contribution from a few gentlemen; Mr. Landreth, from whom the purchase was made, adding a handsome donation.

—•••—  
DURING the present season we have been receiving monthly contributions toward the support of a teacher from the school of Miss Mary Anna Longstreth. Letters have been written to the teacher, in whom the pupils were especially interested, and those from her have been read in the school. Besides this, a contribution was sent at Christmas-time, and since then a bundle of patchwork carefully made ready for wearing, with one block made up in most beautiful style, as a pattern, has been forwarded to the teacher for the use and delight of her dusky scholars. Are there no other schools in Philadelphia, in Pennsylvania, or New-Jersey, that will follow this example? No matter what may be the monthly sum for which teachers and pupils pledge themselves, every little rill of pure spring-water has its own blessed work of refreshment to do in the world; let us only have the assurance of interest and coöperation from any school, and we will gladly welcome the young co-workers, and furnish such letters and papers as will keep their interest fresh and warm. Besides the satisfaction of assisting in a work so important to the interests of the coun-

try, which an intelligent school-girl can feel as keenly as an older woman, there is a delight in preparing pleasures and comforts for other children which little girls can surely enjoy. One of the auxiliary societies of the Women's Branch is made up of girls in the lower classes of the Institute for Colored Youth, and their contributions of small articles of clothing have been most welcome. Each little garment has sewed upon it a text of Scripture, written by the small hands that have neatly done the sewing. The square of patchwork mentioned above has doubtless stimulated many a beginner in the art of sewing to make her stitches very small, and very even, so that her square may be as nicely done as the beautiful pattern sent from the North. Whoever is willing to give pleasure by sending such another bundle, or by sending reward cards to the children in Southern schools, will be helping in a good work, for "blessed are the hands that prepare pleasures for a child," and more especially when the children have had few pleasures. In this case, too, the pleasure prepared includes instruction.

#### REPORT OF WOMEN'S BRANCH, FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1868.

BY MISS S. L. BALDWIN, COR. SEC.

DURING the month of January, 1868, twenty-seven letters have been received, and fifty-three sent out, besides a number of circulars upon which were written appeals for help in every branch of our work. It is gratifying to be able to record the promptness with which some of our old friends have responded to appeals for clothing, sent out in December, or early in this present month. From Susquehanna Co., we have, besides the monthly report of our faithful Vice-President, Miss Walker, letters from the secretaries of the Dimock Aid, Montrose Colored Aid, and Harford Aid, heralding the arrival of boxes from their respective societies; that from Dimock to be forwarded unopened to Okala. From Epsy, Miss Edgar wrote to announce the arrival of a box, hastily packed, of old clothing, containing also some new materials, and from Wilkesbarre Miss Fuller wrote of the coming of a large box of good but half-worn clothing. In Williamsport there is no organized auxiliary society, although a teacher is supported by that place. Mr. Updegraff, a banker, and a much-occupied man of business, has very kindly, since Mr. Cather's visit there last summer, performed all the duties of a regular Women's Freedmen's Aid, answering let-

ters promptly, sending appeals to the churches for physical relief, and when a box has been packed by the ladies of one church, attending himself to the business of forwarding it. Besides this, he has allowed his clerk to collect the monthly subscriptions, and acts as treasurer until the money is sent to Mr. Clark. As he has lately by request furnished the names of ladies likely to be interested in this work, they will be addressed soon on the subject of organizing an auxiliary society, with committees to collect and to correspond, both with the teacher they support and our Association.

In answer to our appeal, the Ladies' Aid of Weldon sent us all the clothing they had on hand, with the promise of further assistance at an early day, for which purpose they had made an effort to obtain a special meeting of the Society.

Mrs. Child, the mother of Martha Schofield, who has received one of the printed circulars with the added appeal in writing, replied that "although they might not be able to send our Association anything more, yet they were not idle; an appeal from her daughter, Lydia Schofield, (who is with her invalid sister at St. Helena Village,) addressed to Darby Monthly Meeting, on behalf of some destitute old people there, had been acted upon, and the treasurer of the Society directed to forward a sum for their immediate relief, so that, with some individual donations, they would be able to send from fifty to sixty dollars." Not long since the Society raised about \$140 for the Race St. Association. Among the first to respond to our appeals for clothing was Miss Sherman, of Trenton, who writes: "I have made some effort among the few friends of the cause with whom I am acquainted. To Mrs. Buttolph, the wife of the Superintendent of our Insane Asylum, a lady of great benevolence and energy, I owe much of the ability to respond promptly to your appeal. She contributed liberally, and, beside active effort herself, she induced the patients to work for the cause."

From Pemberton, N. J., Mrs. Morris wrote: "Although our Aid Society is disbanded, yet, in conjunction with a few of the old members, we are enabled to forward a box of various articles of partly worn clothing, which we hope will be acceptable." A warm expression of interest from Mrs. Clark, of Swedesborough, regretting that she can not write encouragingly, and yet promising to make an effort among her town-people, closes the list of letters concerning this branch of our work. A verbal communication from Mrs. Townsend, President of the West-

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Philadelphia Society, has been received. She will do what she can to collect and send us clothing, but the Society which her efforts kept alive last winter meets to sew no longer.

A Sewing Society has been formed in the neighborhood of Westonville, which has sent us a bundle of new clothing, through Mrs. Wistar Morris, as the first-fruits of their winter's work.

A letter from Mr. Hankinson contains an account of the manner in which he has expended the fifty dollars voted him by our Society, and tells of his misfortunes with regard to the box of clothing. An appeal has been received from some colored citizens of Roxborough, N. C., begging that we will continue Miss Cumming's school.

Respectfully submitted by

S. L. BALDWIN,  
Cor. Sec.

## Correspondence.

### VIRGINIA.

FARMVILLE, VA., February 10, 1868.

ROBERT R. CORSON:

DEAR SIR: I write you to-day for the purpose of requesting that a correction be made through the next number of your *Bulletin*, in the joint letter of Miss Hamilton and myself, published in the February number. The types not unfrequently make us say strange things; but those above referred to are the strangest we have ever yet been made to say, and are so ridiculous, so contrary to all ideas of common sense, that we feel that we can not, as heretofore, suffer them to pass unnoticed. In the original letter we have said we would extend "*through you to our friends there assembled*," etc. In the letter, as it appears in the *Bulletin*, it is thus: "We would extend some cordial words of greeting." In the original, we say: "*It is pleasant to feel that the heart of our native country is beating in unison with ours in this great work of Christian benevolence*." But the *Bulletin* makes us say: "It is pleasant to feel that the heart of our native country is Christian benevolence;" and again, "We *should* extend to you what has often proven to us a solace," etc., instead of we *would* extend, etc.; also, *unremitted* for *unremitting*.

I am very truly your friend,  
L. W. STEPHENS.

LYNCHBURG, VA., February 11, 1868.

ROBERT R. CORSON, Philadelphia, Pa.:

DEAR SIR: The colored people are very poor, and I know that they are very much in need of

many comforts of life, yet they are anxious to become educated, and are willing to do every thing in their power toward supporting teachers. I fear, however, that they will partially fail in their efforts to support those which they have promised to. The people here are certainly in a bad condition now. The factories are all closed, and there is very little work for them to do. Rents are high, and provisions also. Money is scarce, and there is a disposition upon the part of the whites to *starve* the freedmen into terms, and it is only folly to attempt to conceal the fact any longer. Sometimes I almost give up all hope of ever seeing the freedmen receive justice; and indeed it does seem as though they had no place of refuge, no place of rest, no place where they are free from danger. Think of the moral courage which they have displayed—living in their enemies' houses, dependent upon them for bread, and yet asserting their rights and voting diametrically opposite to the interests and wishes of their employers. Is there an example in ancient or modern history equal to this? Such firmness, such determination, and yet such mild forbearance. It is astonishing. They adhere firmly to the Radical party, and will hardly listen to any thing that savors of conservatism. We have a league here in Lynchburg which numbers about sixteen hundred.

Very respectfully,

J. M. STRADLING.

LYNCHBURG, VA., February 6, 1868.

ROBERT R. CORSON, Cor. Sec. P. B. A. F. Com.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.:

DEAR SIR: The school here in Lynchburg has decreased nearly two hundred in number during the past month. Our school-building is situated about one mile from the city, and the roads leading to it are in a very bad condition now. This, in connection with the snow and an insufficient supply of clothing, prevents many from attending. When the snow leaves and the weather gets warmer, then we will again be full to overflowing. The children are learning rapidly, and their eagerness to learn increases proportionally as they advance. Many amusing scenes occur daily in the school-room, but I haven't space to give them here. The children are orderly and respectful, and evince no signs of rudeness toward the white element here. I think our school here in Lynchburg will compare favorably with any colored schools South possessing the same disadvantages. Mr. Lloyd's school at Fincastle has increased during the month, and he now reports one hundred.

This school and the one at Liberty generally have a large attendance. The school-houses are close to the towns, consequently they are enabled to have a large daily attendance. No other school in the district possesses these advantages. Mr. Lloyd has an excellent school. The school at Liberty, taught by Miss Thomas and Miss Haines, is in a fine condition, and for new teachers, without any experience, I think they are doing admirably. They are very enthusiastic, and the only trouble or fear is that they will overwork themselves. Mr. Varner has opened at Johnson's, and will succeed, as he never fails. The other three schools, taught by our three colored teachers, are in a very nice condition indeed, and deserve a great deal of praise. They have not the ability nor the experience of Northern teachers, but their hearts are right, and they labor with a will. Mr. McMahon has a serious time of it in Appomattox. His house had to be ceiled before it was fit to teach in. The whites influenced the mechanics, and it was a long time before he succeeded in getting one to do the work. It is about finished now, and I trust he will never again be interrupted in his school affairs. Mr. Burton, at New-London, closed on the 1st of January. His father moved to Lynchburg, and he, being unable to get boarding, had to close. He hopes to rent a room and start again about the 1st of March. Mr. J. P. Fanburn teaches at Lee's Mills, and I know but little about his school. I have not been able to get out to see him yet. All the teachers are earnestly engaged in the work—the great work of enlightenment and education. I can not praise any of them too highly. They all deserve great credit, and I can not distinguish which one deserves the most.

Very respectfully,

J. M. STRADLING.

### ALABAMA.

HUNTSVILLE, February 3, 1868.

ROBERT R. CORSON, Corresponding Secretary,  
etc.:

DEAR SIR: Enclosed please find the report of our school for the month of January. We have been very much crowded the past month. Our house is too small for the number of pupils. More have applied for admission, but we could not admit them. I would endeavor to rent a larger house if I saw a prospect of getting one. Rent is high, and there is a difficulty in obtaining a building for a colored school. An average attendance of eighty is enough for our accommodations. We have a number of very good readers in McGuffey's Third and Fourth Readers. The

class in geography is doing very well, though most of them are beginners, and have no assistance at home. Those pupils have a poor idea of numbers when they commence school. This is owing to the ignorance of their parents, who, in slavery times, had no calculating to do—that was something for their masters. The times still continue hard on all classes in Alabama, and especially so on the freedmen, who, have nothing laid up for a rainy day. They are poorer now than they were a year ago. Then, planters were anxious to engage hands, at from ten to fifteen dollars per month; and all wanting employment could readily obtain it. The situation is entirely different now. Laborers can not get work. They are not able to rent land and furnish their own supplies till the crop is raised. Neither are the planters willing or able to aid them, as they, too, lost heavily last year. Corn is only forty cents per bushel here, which is a low price; but, low as it seems to be, many are scarcely able to buy enough for food. If it were only twenty-five cents per bushel, it would still require money to buy it, and right there is the difficulty. Captain Harrison, who has charge of the Freedmen's Bureau here, is authorized to issue four thousand bags of corn to the destitute of this section; also a considerable quantity of bacon. These supplies will be very opportune, for there are many really destitute, white and black, who will be saved from suffering by this relief. He is also opening a soup-house in Huntsville, where those suffering for food will be supplied each day with soup. The masses of both colors are very much depressed. Their prospects are not good. Cotton is not king, and there are reasons for believing that it will never be a paying crop in these States again.

The election will come off this week, and there are grave doubts as to the ratification of the proposed constitution. The Republican party can carry this State with a large majority, but they are divided at present, and many of the white Union men of the South will not vote, because they think the colored men have been prejudiced against them by designing men. The sooner the State is reconstructed on a sound political basis the better.

Yours truly, A. W. McCULLOUGH,  
Huntsville, Ala.

ROBERT R. CORSON, Philadelphia, Pa.



## SEA ISLANDS, S. C.

VILLAGE, January 16, 1868.

ROBERT R. CORSON, Cor. Sec., etc., etc. :

I have been waiting to enclose you the teachers' receipts for their salaries, but our humble little bank is unable to cash so large a check at short notice, and I can not yet pay out the separate salaries. I may have to send the check to Charleston. The stores will cash smaller checks, but not so large ones. General Gill was at our house a few days ago. I asked him about paying rent for the school-building. He did not give a definite answer, but said he had no money to spend for small matters. I do not think it can make much difference. The Misses Heacock's school is held in Colonel Marple's cotton-house, and the Frogmore school in mine. Neither of us requires rent. Miss Schofield's is in a Government building. There remains only Pennsylvania school-house No. 1, the one we teach in. That, with its two acres, would not bring much, when whole plantations rent and sell for a mere song.

Gen. Gill is going to put up immediately two good, substantial school-houses—one on Frogmore, which he says will be up in four weeks, and the other for the Misses Heacock's school on Port Royal Island. Col. Marple gives the land and fences the lot for the latter, and I am to deed the land for the former, and place it in the care of three trustees, of whom I am to be one, and two respectable colored men the others. In the deed I wish it inserted that no distinctions of color must be made in the school.

I have been urging upon some of the most influential freedmen the necessity of raising money to help to keep the Pennsylvania schools free schools. The people listen eagerly; express grateful thanks for the free-school privileges their children have already received; say they ought to and will do more hereafter for themselves; promise to raise money willingly and gladly. But the indications are, that since they really have no money now, they will organize into a great "Educational Society," as they call it, make wide plans, and expend themselves in talking.

An impression spread abroad that each child was to pay a "school-tax" of half a dollar a month, as in Charleston, and several of the most honest of the parents at once came to say that they must withdraw their children, as they had no money, and no prospect of any before another crop. We should have lost some of our best children, and it would have been a heart-break to them and ourselves. It is not the poor and idle who are moneyless, but most

of the really well-to-do and respectable. Their money all comes from cotton, and that was a failure generally.

I do not mean to give the impression that the people are in want. They are really more comfortable than I have ever seen them, for they had good crops of all kinds of provisions that they plant here.

I think the cry of Southern destitution is raised falsely, and for a purpose. I have limited opportunity for observation, but what I see in a corner I infer of the whole field. The Southern planters choose to extract as much as they can from the North, and they cry out "Give, give" continually. They take rations, and refuse to sell land to negroes ready to pay cash for it. They call for help to be idle.

There is a proposition—short-sighted, it seems to me—to advance provisions to planters from Government, to be given to laborers as wages, a lien to be taken upon the planter's crop, so as to secure repayment to Government. That is, to make the North pay for the labor which will result for the benefit of one class at the South. What if the crop should turn out as this year's has? It is certain to do so, if repayment be the condition of a good crop. Every thing would be done to keep back the true state of the case, and the largest standing army could hardly recover. To think that the South would honorably repay is not possible since the war, and what an opportunity it gives to cheat the negroes! The provisions at cost price from Government to the planter, and at planters' prices from the employer to the employed! That will be sure to set the two races as much at variance as they can be put.

The only good I can see in such a plan is to give Government a claim to the land, so that it can sell it to those who can work it. But I do not hear that it is proposed to make the land liable for the advanced money, but only the crop. It is the old plan of the Southerners to pledge their crop beforehand, and always live a year in advance of their means. And now that *individuals* at the North will not advance on such securities as they can give, they raise a cry of distress, so that soft-hearted Congress may compel the Northern *public* to do it. Just so long as there is any response to this cry, they will raise it yearly. But if the North would wisely turn a deaf ear, they would take to work instead of beggary. The negroes will never ask for assistance, or any help, if the land-owners will only allow each family a lot of land sufficient for provisions, and a surplus to pay as rent for the land. The planters will not do this, but want to employ the negroes, be-



which I have mentioned was secured. To my mind, this is one of the many illustrations which I could cite of the great advantage which there is in the union of all good people in the support and conduct of common-schools in the South; for if the Home Missionary Societies of the different denominations leave their proper work among the freedmen, or do less of it, in order to promote secular instruction by sects, strife, confusion, and weakness will follow; they will set the Roman Catholic Church an example which it is all too ready and able to pursue, and will actually help it to a greater triumph than it could possibly achieve, if, as Christian citizens, they united to prepare the way in the South for that common-school system which has done so much to stem the tide of ignorance, superstition, and vice ever rolling upon us and our institutions from the Old World.

If, as denominations, we establish and conduct day and night-schools for popular education in the South, (I should rather say sectarian,) why should we wonder or complain if the Roman Catholic Church does the same thing? And if we all do it there, and become very much interested in the strife, may we not begin it here, and, as no sect is recognized by our Government, go back to a worse than parochial system? In maintaining sectarian day-schools, the papists are the most consistent; for they make education in letters, and what we consider morals, subordinate to the promotion of their peculiar forms and doctrines—an arrangement which they cannot effect in our common-schools—and hence they have an inducement and excuse; but we Protestant Christians are satisfied with the prevailing system, and try, or should try, to train up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord at home. But even religiously there is no argument against the Freedman's Commission, and in favor of the denominational societies, as *moral educators*, for the New Testament is recognized and used by them all, and spiritual and mental fitness is alike required in their teachers.

Many a time have I been pained at receiving appeals for help in building churches, and obtaining the preaching of the Gospel, when I knew that the Home Missionary Societies, which should respond to these cries, were spending their too small incomes in teaching the alphabet, and were also preventing the people here from uniting in the support of unsectarian day and night-schools. Heaven knows that there is work enough for all the church societies, even if their means were trebled, in developing a purer life among the freed people by the application of Gospel principles in pastoral work to their every-day thought and practice. Thus, and in the establishment of seminaries for the education of a colored ministry, let the churches work, separately if necessary, as it seems to be, while they join with all the truly patriotic in affording educational facilities to the Southern masses under Christian influence until the South provides for them, as it ultimately must, itself. When that good time comes, the schools of the Freedman's Commission, as is justly remarked by Rev. Dr. Williams, one of its vice-presidents, will pass without difficulty into a national, State, or municipal system. Were they sectarian, and owned by Missionary Societies which contem-  
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ted a prolonged existence, the case would be different. Therefore, although a Baptist minister, and regarding the Christian ministry as my life-work, I prefer to do what I can, through the Freedman's Commission, during this transitional period, to hasten the time when the South will legislate for the education of all its children, irrespective of race or color, and the world shall begin to see how much better freedom is than slavery for the most oppressed of God's intelligent creatures, and also for the section and country to which they belong.

You will be glad to learn that, notwithstanding the hard times, I find Christian people of all denominations willing to unite in sustaining the great work which the Freedman's Commission is prosecuting. Yesterday evening I spoke to a union of six churches in the First Presbyterian Church, of which a beloved and accomplished namesake of yours is pastor. Last Sunday I had five meetings in Rochester; and next Sunday I expect to address the Universalists in the morning, and a union of the Presbyterians and Baptists in the evening, at Auburn.

With kind and respectful regards, yours truly,  
 CRAMMOND KENNEDY,  
 Sec'y N. Y. Branch Freedman's Commission.

## Correspondence.

### DELAWARE.

WE give entire the report of one of our Delaware teachers to the association of that State. The New-York Branch pays the salaries of these teachers, while the colored people among whom they teach contribute the money for their support. The same plan is carried out in Maryland:

DOVER, January 30, 1863.

REV. J. G. FUREY, Actuary:

SIR: We are favored this month with an increase that alone is equal to the entire membership of last month. Of the sixty-one now in attendance, ten come a distance of four miles, three a distance of seven miles. They are as regular and punctual in their attendance every day as though they resided in the immediate neighborhood. We also have all the larger pupils of the Friends' School, formerly held at Cowgill's Corner, (building now in ashes.)

We have only been able to hold evening school two weeks, the revival meeting being in progress; but, as it has now ceased, a fair attendance may reasonably be expected.

JOSEPH H. ROGERS, Teacher.

DOVER, Kent Co., Delaware.

### VIRGINIA.

ALEXANDRIA.

THE following slip speaks for itself; but the most encouraging fact about it is, that the writer is a "native" by sympathy as well as by

birth, and refused to believe, as we are informed, that the teachers "could be either ladies or moderately intelligent," until he visited the schools:

"I have been greatly interested to-day by a visit to the school for colored children, held in the large building erected for that purpose in the southern part of the city. The building contains eight rooms plainly furnished for school purposes, six of which are at present in use. The time at my command did not admit of my examining all of them, but the three I saw gave ample evidence of the zeal and devotion of the teachers, and the capacity of the scholars. The lower classes of course could not manifest much more than a desire to learn, which the scholars seemed to feel, and which was evidently producing its usual and legitimate effect of opening and arousing the mind, and stimulating it to effort for improvement. The first class, however, surprised me by their advancement. The class in reading performed very well; the answers in mental arithmetic were ready and correct; the lesson in geography showed great familiarity with outlines of our own country and of Europe; and the writing generally was a good deal above the average of scholars of the same age. Several pieces of poetry were recited by the scholars with spirit and effect, and their singing was excellent. I am not speaking of these things relatively, but absolutely. If any one doubts the statement, or thinks my report too highly colored, let him or her visit the school, and see whether it is so. The number of scholars in the whole school is about three hundred. The ladies who have it in charge, I think, deserve thanks for their efforts to elevate a portion of our population in the scale of intelligence and respectability.

A NATIVE.

"January 17, 1863."

FROM MISS LUCY EASTMAN, CHRISTIANSBURG.

With this I send my monthly report for January. When I look back just one year to my first report, and see the difference in *that* one and *this* one, I do feel a little surprised. In that one there were no scholars in geography, and now there are seventy, twelve of whom have finished the first lessons and are doing nicely in the second lessons. Another class of thirty will finish the first book in two weeks, and are very eager to get into the higher book. The rest are on the map of North-America, and a glorious class they are. I do wish you could hear them recite. It is the same in arithmetic; they pass rapidly from addition to subtraction, and so on to the other rules. To many of them I gave written arithmetics at first, not requiring them to go through the primary. In Miss Bosworth's grade the same quickness is to be observed. They finish the primer so soon after they learn their letters that it is almost impossible to keep them supplied with first readers, so we take back the old ones when a class takes

a higher book in part pay for the new one, if the scholar had paid for it; if not, we do not allow him any thing on it. She has none in the alphabet at present. Boys who did not know their letters three weeks since are reading readily in three letters, also learning the multiplication table, and to add and subtract in small numbers, as well as a great number of useful questions which are taught after the reading exercise.

### NORTH-CAROLINA.

FROM MR. SAMUEL G. CROSS, TOWNVILLE.

I WILL give you a somewhat lengthy report, starting from the commencement. I arrived in this place on the 26th of April, 1867, and found the people very glad to see me. The next day I was taken to see the school-room, which I found to be a very convenient one in a two-story frame house, containing four rooms fifteen feet square, two of which were designated, one as the school-room and the other as the teachers' apartment. On the 30th of April I opened school with twenty-two children, increasing daily until I had at one time fifty-nine pupils in attendance, all of whom, with the exception of a few, did not know their alphabet. From the first day there was a rapid improvement in knowledge, until now I am happy to say I have a fine class in arithmetic, grammar, geography, reading, writing, spelling, and Parker & Watson's pronouncing speller. In arithmetic the class has got to multiplication, having mastered addition and subtraction. In grammar the class have got to page 27, (Clark's First Grammar,) having been in this book only a little over two months. In reading and the other branches there is also a remarkable degree of proficiency.

Inclosed I send you a few samples of some of their writing. These children are very small, and in this branch they excel any thing I have seen in children so young. On each page you will find their names, age, place of birth, and their owner's name, and when free. On account of cold weather, and the children being without sufficient clothing, my report is not as large in numbers as it should be. But as soon as it becomes warmer I shall have more pupils than I had last year.

(The writing of which Mr. Cross speaks is really wonderful.—Ed.)

FROM MISS WAUGH, TRENT CAMP.

I have been waiting to get fully settled in my new home before answering your letter. As you already know, I am now located at Trent Camp, but still homesick for the "old plantation," and the dear school I left there. I

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find plenty of work here, more than I can do. My school numbers about one hundred, though the average, about sixty, is not what I could wish, on account of the cold weather and the extreme uncomfortableness of the building in which I teach. Our school-buildings are not what they ought to be. You can see through them in every direction, and *many, many* places you can put your hands through, which in a cold, rainy day make it impossible for scholars or teacher to keep comfortable. My school-room is a log church about sixty feet long, with a large fire-place in one end only, and the scarcity of wood makes it impossible to keep warm. We have had the promise of a new school-house, or the hospital buildings fixed up for our immediate use, but see no prospect of its being done so as to benefit us this winter, so our only hope is in the coming warm weather, and we wish for an early spring. New scholars are coming every day, and as yet we have turned none away, but don't know but we shall soon be obliged to.

One new scholar to-day, on being questioned in regard to her attainments, replied: "She could spell right smart; but, as she could not read, thought she would come to school and get a little instruction." Many of them can spell in Baker to words of three syllables, but cannot read at all, and my patience has been severely tried with their tenacity in clinging to their "blue backs," as they call their old elementary spelling-books, and they seem to think that every thing comprised in the English language is contained within its lids. The people here are very poor, and many of them in a destitute and suffering condition. As Mr. Burghduff has already informed you, I believe it requires a great deal of inquiry to discriminate between the deserving poor and those who are too shiftless to do any thing for themselves.

"And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury.

"And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites,

"And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: for all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had."  
—LUKE 21: 1-4.

[We publish the following as we received it, sure that the imperfections in the form will only add to the eloquence of the spirit:]

NEWBERN N C February 14th 1868

MR CRAMOND KENNEDY

DEAR SIR we The members of the Educa-

tional Society auginized In Trent Settlement N C Do Forward to the Sociation Eight Dollars \$8 to aide In Serpoting our teacher Rev J W Burghduff. The amount is small But it is the Best we can Do under the Present Circumstancis we are a Poore and Destitute People and the times are wary harde But we feel willing to try to help our selves all we Can of such we hope the small amount will Be accepted

Respectfully yours

AMOS YORK President  
SOUTHEY HUNTER Sect

Pleas ancer this as sunde as it comes to hand  
Direct Box 121

FROM MRS. S. A. BOND, OXFORD.

Your kind letters have been received, but I have been so very busy it seemed next to impossible to find time to write. I am as much pleased as Isham Hill himself that the twenty dollars per month were allowed him, for he works faithfully, and the scholars under his care are progressing finely. I went up on Thursday morning to hear a class read; they began with the alphabet on the 12th of January, and now read well in words of three letters; any teacher might be proud of them. We open school at nine o'clock, teach till twelve, have thirty minutes' recess, and then teach till three. I then have dinner at four, rest, write, or receive calls from colored people till six, when the night-school opens. If I only had a larger room, I could have one or two of the scholars to help me; they would gladly do it, and thus be the better prepared to teach themselves; as it is, one young man writes slate copies, which is a great assistance.

This has been a trying week for me; it was court week, and people, both black and white, have flocked into the town. I was obliged to keep the door and windows open to breathe, and the colored people would crowd round the porch to see and hear the school, with looks of *real* enjoyment on their faces, all still as mice; while white people looked in at the windows, and even opened the door to look and listen. One day, while the first geography class was reciting, and many people were gathered about the windows and door, a white man opened the door; so I stepped forward, and asked him if he wished to step in and hear the class. He politely raised his hat and said he should like to, and entered; while the doorway was filled with others, and any number of colored people stood outside. The class was perfect, and after they had finished I called a little *mite* of a boy to point out on the map the States, Capitals,

etc., the whole school answering promptly. I was really proud of them, and the man said it was *remarkable*.

No white person has been in the house since Mrs. Winsor died, though I think they generally feel friendly to the school, several people having lately made inquiries as to the progress and interest of the scholars. Last Sabbath the gentleman at whose house Mrs. Winsor's son staid after her death, stopped at the porch and spoke kindly to me, saying he had read my letter in *THE FREEDMAN*, and thanking me for mentioning the kindness of the people to Mrs. Winsor and her son. He said that others as well as himself were much gratified to have it mentioned in Northern papers.

You ask me if the colored people will aid the school materially? I think they will next year. I have embraced every opportunity to impress upon them the fact that they *MUST* do it, or the teachers would be withdrawn, and sent where the people would show by their acts that they wished to have a school; and those people who were most earnest in furnishing support would be the ones to whom teachers would be sent. They are now trying to raise the money to buy the church, for a school-house. They are so much afraid of its being a Baptist or Methodist church, they could not agree. I told them that it should be neither, but *the school-house*, and open for all preaching; and, if Christians, they could worship together as well as study together. This idea seemed to be favorably received. I waited for those who had pledged to help the matter forward till Thursday night last week, then called for a report. Found not a cent had been raised. I then took the matter in hand, and raised between four and five dollars in school that night. A beginning was made. Have something over twenty dollars now, a small beginning toward the eight hundred which must be raised during the week. Had a crowded house yesterday. Told them I should certainly send full one half of their children home next month if they did not furnish a larger room. They seem to be just waking up to the idea that it will be done. I said I could not teach in such a crowded room. They promise, and we will see how they redeem it.

### SOUTH-CAROLINA.

FROM MISS E. E. KING, COLUMBIA.

OUR department of the school, the primary, now numbers two hundred and ten pupils, and they are as interesting a class as I ever dealt with. If these are the future leaders of the

race, there need be no fears of its ever coming in bondage again. The past two weeks have been unusually cold for this latitude, but the little creatures, though poorly clad, many of them without shoes, and many more with only such an apology for them as barely hang to their ankles, came regularly, and sat with beaming countenances through the whole session. They seem to dread nothing so much as being kept from school, or sent away for any offence. Numbers come every day to whom we are obliged to refuse admittance, for even if we could teach more, which is an absurd thing to think of, there is actually no room for any more. One day, when the seats were so crowded as to make it exceedingly inconvenient, we sent some of the smallest home, with the injunction not to come again until they had grown taller. The next morning they were all there again, and one wee creature, with fair face and blue eyes, came close to me and said, "My ma say if I is 'tittle, I'se old." You may know this proof of her determination insured her place in the school as well as in our hearts. Their expression of gratitude is often quite touching. To-day one of the poorest present, whose leanness and extreme wanness seem like a continual cry of hunger in our ears, brought a new-laid egg from the plantation on which she lives; another a bunch of holly, with its bright berries and spiny leaves; another a handful of violets from the woods; and scarcely a day passes but they make some self-denial to express their appreciation for their "teachah." Though this department has been open only little more than a month, there is already a marked improvement in all those who have attended regularly. A few grown people come, and as it seemed unsuitable to class them with the little creatures who would be almost lost beside them, Miss Greene put them in a class together, which she whimsically calls her "normal class," and she hears them read in the back part of the room while Miss Norris and I in the front part teach the younger ideas to shoot. The business of introducing the twenty six alphabetical characters, and explaining the peculiarities of their shape and position, trivial and monotonous though it may seem, is, nevertheless, invested with a real interest, when a score of delighted faces are upturned, and a score of piping, childish voices pronounce them with a gusto that bespeaks energy and incipient force of character. "Last come last served," Miss Haley said to us apologetically in assigning us this department; but we have no reason to regret that the circumstance of our arrival made us the instructors of the little ones. We have fallow ground to work

upon, and though our duty seems chiefly to prepare it for future sowing, we nevertheless hope to drop here and there the seed that shall blossom and bear fruit when we are old. Miss Norris and I have each a very interesting class in one of the Baptist Sunday-schools, while Miss Greene teaches in the Methodist. The room in which our school is held is on the ground, with a few benches placed in the sand, and here and there a bit of ragged bunting spread for the teachers to stand upon. The roof seems to have been thrown down upon a piece of old wall, doubtless the inclosure of somebody's garden, and three small windows have been inserted. Here a congregation of indigent freedmen meet to worship every Sabbath, and here we found the greatest demand for our services. My boys commit to memory four verses from the Testament and one from the Scriptural cards which I take them. One little fellow, with a face like ebony, said to me last Sabbath, "Give me a Testament with the Psalms in, please ma'am?" I told him if he would learn perfectly the Ten Commandments and Christ's Sermon on the Mount, the book should be his. My heart related a little afterward for giving him so hard a task, but when I saw the look of determination in his eager eyes, I concluded the price was no greater than he could afford. We have visited considerably among our pupils, besides relieving, to the extent of our means, the wants of those who have no claims upon us. When I see the half-starved creatures in their wretched homes, I can not wonder at the spirit of listlessness that sometimes shows itself among them. The greatest wonder is that they are invariably thankful for freedom, though the boon seems to bring with it starvation. Miss Merrick and I went, a few days ago, to visit a woman who styles herself "a heap better off than Lazarus." She had gathered a few old boards and built herself a loose hovel in the churchyard, not high enough for her to stand upright under the roof, and about five feet long. She had made herself a rude fire-place of bricks brought from some ruins, of which Columbia is full. But she had no apology for a chimney, and when we looked in upon her she was so completely enveloped in smoke we could scarcely discern her figure. "Do you sleep here, auntie?" we asked. "Oh! no, missus," she said, "I sleeps in de church, and can keep warm there." The same day we called upon another woman who had gathered together material for a house with her own hands, and with the assistance of her husband built a house, filling the interstices with clay and appropriating an old dilapidated chimney from a group of "Sher-

man's monuments." The mother of the woman builder lives with her. Miss Merrick gave her a garment, whereupon she fell upon her knees and grasped Miss Merrick's hand with as much a show of gratitude as if she had done her a vital favor, or saved her from the gallows. Such thanks seem servile, and are, doubtless, the fruit of some bitter seeds sown in slavery. So far as I have been able to judge, there is more poverty here than at Petersburg. The tobacco factories of that city furnish employment for hundreds of men, women, and children. Here, there is nothing of the kind, and the penitentiary and almshouse seem the most thriving institutions in the place. We have not yet organized a night-school, but have been trying to form some plan whereby we can bring together, in the evening, the surplus of our morning pupils. The ladies are all in excellent health and spirits, and labor as faithfully as any association I have ever seen or heard of. All agree in according the highest esteem to our matron and superintendent, and in loving the home and school devotedly.

#### MR. KENNEDY'S LECTURING TOUR.

THE ROCHESTER EXPRESS has the following notice of one of the addresses which Mr. Kennedy delivered in that city on the 2d ult.:

EDUCATION IN THE SOUTH.—Last evening, in the Second Baptist Church, an address was delivered by Rev. Crammond Kennedy, Secretary of the New-York Branch of the Freedman's Union Commission, on this subject, to a large and attentive audience.

"Eight hundred thousand emancipated children between six and sixteen years of age should go to school. At least half a million of them have no educational facilities whatever. The adults also should be instructed. All the freed people, young and old, are eager to learn. The poor whites will be stimulated by the improvement of the negroes, and the whole of the South blessed with greater security, prosperity, virtue, and happiness.

"The Freedman's Commission is unsectarian. Denominational differences carried into its work would weaken it, and needlessly divide the patriotic and Christian people. Besides, all the day-schools must eventually be like our own in the North—supported by taxation, and open to all. The Commission is coöperative, soliciting and securing, as it does, the aid of the freedmen and the planters. It simply helps the South to help itself. The Commission is also impartial, establishing its schools and depots of relief for all, irrespective of race or color.

"The New-York Branch employs 132 teachers—mostly women. They are ministers of industry, cleanliness, economy, sobriety, and social purity, as well as teachers of the A B C. Seventy are sustained by miscellaneous contributions. Three thousand five hundred dollars a month are necessary to meet the expenses for these ladies and their schools. Sixty

are supported by churches, auxiliary societies, and individuals."

Rev. W. R. Long, who is collecting funds for this cause in Rochester, made a few remarks, and the congregation joined in singing two stanzas of the missionary hymn:

"Shall we, whose souls are lighted  
By wisdom from on high,  
Shall we to men benighted  
The lamp of life deny?"

#### WATERTOWN.

In response to the appeal of the secretary, who addressed a union meeting of the churches in this flourishing village, on the 9th ult., our subscription has been handsomely started, and collectors appointed to finish it in the different societies. Special thanks are due to the Rev. Messrs. Porter, Peddie, and Tomlinson for their hearty and efficient coöperation. Miss Beales, one of the best of our last year's teachers, is making the canvass in the Baptist Church.

#### AUBURN.

Here, in less than a week, beginning on Sunday, the 16th ult., more than \$800 was contributed for the support of the teachers and schools that we took at the beginning of the season on faith, nearly half of the amount resulting from a fair which was held by the ladies on the 18th. This latter effort was begun by Harriet Tubman, a worthy and wonderful woman, who escaped from slavery, and afterward helped many others into freedom before the war. The proceeds of the fair are appropriated for the support of two colored teachers in Maryland, Mrs. Tubman's native State. All the ministers, Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, and Universalist, rendered the cause good service.

#### STRACUSE.

Here, on Sunday morning, the 23d ult., the secretary occupied the pulpit of our staunch and venerable friend, Rev. S. J. May, and in the evening addressed a union meeting of the Baptists at the First Baptist Church, of which Rev. J. J. Lewis is the successful and beloved pastor. The yearly subscription was started with over \$250, which Mr. Long expects to carry up to \$1500, after he has made a thorough canvass of

#### ALBANY.

where a meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the 25th ult., of which *The Albany Evening Journal* of the 26th had the following notice: "THE FREEDMAN'S UNION MEETING LAST EVENING.—The meeting in the State Street Baptist Church last evening, in behalf of the Freedmen's Union Commission, was well attended. Governor Fenton was prevented from attending through bodily indisposition. Wm. A. McElroy presided. Mr. Curtis's address was, of course, brilliant and powerful in its appeals in behalf of the Society. He was followed in stirring remarks by the secretary, Rev. Crammond Kennedy, and Rev. Dr. Clark.

"The object of this Society appeals to every believer in the elevation of humanity. It is supporting 132 teachers, who instruct 10,000 pupils, including 500 colored youths who are preparing to teach in the South. Auxiliary societies and individuals support 60 of these teachers and their schools. Support is needed

for the remaining 72, and needed at once. Half a million emancipated children are without any educational facilities, and there is no common-school system in the South. The Commission is neither sectarian, sectional, nor partisan, and is managed with system, thoroughness, economy, and enthusiasm.

"Rev. W. R. Long, the authorized agent of the Society, closed the meeting with a few remarks. He will remain in the city and canvass it for aid. It is no crime to teach the blacks to read, whatever it may be to let them vote. Aid them."

Before returning to the office, Mr. Kennedy expects to speak again in Albany, and also in Troy, Rome, Utica, and Elmira.

#### Correction.

\$12.50 received in January from Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Durbank, Lawrenceville, Va., were incorrectly entered in our last number.

#### RECEIPTS.

BY EDWARD F. DAVISON, TREASURER, FROM JAN. 23d to FEB. 30th, 1868.

#### From Agents.

Rev. E. Brett, Jan. 25th, \$100; Feb. 6th, \$120; Feb. 14th, \$100; Rev. E. Colton, Jan. 25th, \$103.09, \$31.79; Feb. 6th, \$337.03; Feb. 17th, \$154.10; Rev. W. R. Long, Feb. 5th, \$150.59; Rev. Mr. Bradley, Feb. 6th, \$328.

#### From Auxiliary Societies.

Port Henry, \$275; Sing Sing, \$127; Gorham, \$1; Nyack, \$106.10; Hamlet, \$20; Chenango Co., \$31; Newburyport, Mass., \$100; Sherwood, \$21.55; Geneva, \$15; Mt. Upton, \$6; East-Boston, Mass., \$45.24; Alfred Centre, \$8; Andover, \$6.75; Bristol Centre, \$22.40; Salisbury Centre, \$15; Munnsville, \$1.10; Tompkins Co., \$37.75; Chenango Co., \$35.03; Maine, \$2.59; Vernon, \$5; Bridgewater, \$10.

#### Miscellaneous.

A. G. Lansing, Schuylerville, N. Y., \$10; N. W. Branch, \$100; American Missionary Society, for house in Beaufort, S. C., \$1000; L. F. Laine, Canisteo, \$7.20; M. E. Church, Belfast, \$5; J. G. Pearson, Esq., N. Y., \$25; Mrs. J. F. Depeyster, N. Y., \$50; M. F. W., \$60; Cyrus W. Field, Esq., N. Y., \$25; H. J. Raymond & Co., N. Y., \$100; Alfred Roe, Esq., N. Y., \$10; Rev. O. B. Frothingham's Society, N. Y., \$227.75; Charles B. Collins, Esq., N. Y., \$50; Thanksgiving Collection, Lisle, N. Y., \$6.50; School Society, Plymouth, N. C., \$10; Edmund Tweedy, Esq., \$50; Mrs. M. B. Foss, Danville, \$15; Presbyterian ch., Oak's Corners, \$4; Miss Stratton, Jacksonville, Fla., for books and tuition, \$22.59; Henry Brown, Nottingham, England, \$1.59; Rev. O. B. Frothingham's Society, N. Y., \$6; Mrs. M. A. Johnson, Binghamton, \$15; S. D. Hand, Binghamton, \$5; R. Balcorn, Binghamton, \$5; Matthews & Brownson, \$25; A. J. Evans, Binghamton, \$6; Miss Bent and Mrs. Williams, St. Augustine, Fla., for books, \$19.60; P. Hamilton, Poughkeepsie, \$25; John Paine, Esq., N. Y., \$25; John T. Lord, N. Y., \$10; James C. Carter, N. Y., \$25; David Hoadley, N. Y., \$50; A. Ruch & Co., N. Y., \$25; Educational Society, Trent Camp, N. C., \$8; C. M. McKinney, Binghamton, \$3; Mrs. M. C. Hart, Washington, D. C., for goods sold, \$29; Kelly & Co., difference in rent, \$500; South Congregational ch., Augusta, Me., \$31.75; Mrs. Narcissa Stone, Brunswick, Me., \$25.



THE  
American Freedman.

[Address, 30 Vesey Street; or P. O. Box 5,733.]

VOL. III.]

NEW-YORK, APRIL, 1868.

[No. 1.

The American Freedman's Union Commission.

30 Vesey St.

"The object of this Commission is to aid and coöperate with the people of the nation upon the basis of industry, education maintained from the benefits of which any

Chief-Justice S. P. CHASE, *President*.  
Rev. Jos. P. THOMPSON, D.D., N. Y.,  
WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, Boston, } Vice  
CHARLES G. HAMMOND, Chicago, }

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Communications should be addressed to the General Secretary, Rev. LYMAN ABBOTT, 30 Vesey Street, New York City.

TERMS.

Advertisements, one insertion, at the rate of \$30 per page for ordinary inside pages; but for an inside page opposite the general reading matter, or for the outside (last) page of this journal, the price is \$40—payable, in all cases, as soon as the journal is published.

One copy of THE AMERICAN FREEDMAN to a regular subscriber one year, (twelve numbers,) fifty cents.

Any person contributing five dollars to the cause, to any Branch of this Commission, is entitled to receive one copy of this journal free for a year.









